

# The *Almagest*

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LSU in Shreveport

Volume 29, Number 3

## Single-board plan could mean big changes for LSUS

Shelly Cole  
Almagest

Governor Mike Foster has reinitiated the single-board plan originally proposed by former governor Buddy Roemer.

Under the plan Louisiana's universities and colleges will fall under one board, the Board of Governors, as opposed to the four boards they represent now.

Chancellor Vincent Marsala said that although the single-board plan "is far from being a done deal", if passed, it should help lessen some of the budget burdens universities like LSUS endure.

"Governor Foster was emphatic in saying" that the single-board plan is intended for the "stabilization of funds for higher education," said Marsala.

Marsala explained that the amounts of funds an institution would receive would depend on the level of education it provides. Under the current plan junior colleges such as BPCC are funded the same as universities with masters programs such as LSUS.

The proposed plan includes four levels. Level one, flagship or research insti-

tutions, incorporates those universities that "receive approximately 40-million dollars in federal grant money and award a minimum of 50 PhDs per school year,"



Dr. Vince Marsala photo by Rita Uotila

according to Marsala. LSU-Baton Rouge center for law, veterinarians, medicine, and agriculture are on level one.

Level two, doctoral institutions, includes universities that offer a wide variety of uppergraduate and some doctoral degrees. University of New Orleans, University of Southern

Louisiana, and Louisiana tech would fall under this level.

The third level, comprehensive institutions, would include universities such as LSUS, Northeast and Northwestern which offer a variety of undergraduate degrees and a limited number of graduate degrees.

Bossier Parish Community College and Southern University-Shreveport-Bossier would be included in the community college system, the fourth level of the plan.

All four levels would be under the Board of Governors which would divide funds according to the level an institution is assigned.

"It keeps the two, [funds and levels of education], tied together which is what

most of us like," said Marsala. Universities are not tied into one level or another; they can move from a lower level to a higher one thus increasing their funding, according to Marsala.

Marsala said he is also pleased with the idea that each institution can make its own on-site managerial decisions. "Each institution receives more autonomy," he said.

According to Marsala one aspect of autonomy is an institution's name. If the plan passes, "and that's a big if," said Marsala, LSUS would have to change its name. There will no longer be an LSU system; there can only be one LSU under the new plan. Similarly, Southern University-Shreveport-Bossier would have to find a new name also.

## Library to open front doors

Brittany Manson  
Almagest

The new spring semester is underway and everyone is getting back into their old flow of things, the library is no exception. There have been various meetings about renovations to the actual structure and allocations of funds to all four colleges and the Noel Memorial library.

Many students seldom notice, but the front of Noel Memorial Library possesses a very elaborate front entrance. Who uses this front entrance? Well, not many only visitors go through. These visitors usually include high school students, LA Tech students, LSUMC employees, and those individuals wanting to view the archives, according to Dr. Alan Gabehart, assistant dean of the library.

Since not many utilize the front entrance, there are actions to change this fact. The library is looking into setting up some security measures for the front entrance. Right now they are looking into the proposals that have been received and after the bids are turned in and one is accepted, then it will be 30-45 days before the security measures will be available for use, said Gabehart. One problem the library is facing is that there is little room at the front entrance to install a protective system, so there are some modifications to the existing system being made so that there is the required

See Library on P.2

## SGA lacks student support

Amy Cavanaugh  
Almagest

Did you vote in the last SGA election? If not, you are not alone. Only 127 students out of a campus population of approximately 4000 voted in the election. According to Michael Scales, SGA Public Relations Chairperson, the number may be even smaller since "17 people were running for senators-at-large, and you could vote for 16."

Even fewer students voted to pass the revisions to the SGA Constitution. Only 23 people voted on the revisions, and there are 24 members of the SGA.

"The student body is the SGA. SGA members are just representatives of the student body. The SGA Constitution says 'All students of LSU-S are members of the SGA.' This means in making revisions to the constitution, all students have the right to vote," Scales said.

A copy of the revised SGA Constitution is available for review in the library. While most of the revisions are minor, the 2.0 G.P.A. requirement for senators is now the LSU-S G.P.A. instead of including transferred grades from other schools.

The next election of SGA officers will be March 18-22, five full days to vote. The deadline for applications for college senator are due March 4 in Room 232 in the University Center. A 2.0 G.P.A. is required to run for senator.

A great incentive to run for SGA President and Vice-President is that the winners will receive full scholarships during their terms. To run for President or Vice-President, a candidate must have been a senator for at least one semester.

Other SGA projects include holding a raffle for a faculty parking space, having a recycling drive on Thursday April 11, and sending representatives to COSGA at Texas A&M to participate in seminars with SGA members from all over the U.S. One correction from the last issue is that the administration, not the SGA, is in charge of building the new parking lot.

The project to gain library funding from the riverboats is still being organized in order to make a successful presentation.

Finally, four SGA members will meet with Governor Foster to voice their opinions about the funding of higher education.

SGA's primary concern is still the lack of student participation in their own government. All students are welcome to attend the SGA meetings on Tuesdays at 1:00 in the Desoto Room of the University Center. As Michael Scales said "Everybody complains about this and that, but nobody is coming to the meetings. You can't gripe about things if you don't participate in changing them."

### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday:  
7:30 a.m. - midnight

Friday:  
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday:  
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.



## Library from P. 1

three feet between the door and the system.

The library was built like this, front away from the campus, because the administration and chancellor wanted the new library to be a showplace for the campus. The Noel Memorial Library was finished in 1993 and opened in August 1994, but opened after approximately ten years of planning.

The library has also been having a variety of meetings since the spring semester started. There was meeting held last week by the library committee to get things rolling for this semester. This meeting was for organizational purposes primarily. Also discussed was responsibilities of the committee and planning the agenda for the upcoming months.

A follow-up meeting was held this past Monday to primarily discuss the formula that allocates funds to the four colleges and the library for resource materials. On this committee is one representative from each college and Dr. Laurene Zaporozhetz, dean of the library. Two student representatives are on this committee, but were not in attendance.

The formula, which was developed by Paul Deiermann, takes into consideration many factors like the average cost of aca-

demic materials for each department, the percentage of students in each level of courses, like 100 or 200 in each department, and number of faculty. On the March agenda, the committee is looking at revising the formula to allow for index and abstracts, references like one time encyclopedias, and general magazines and newspapers like Time and Newsweek, to support everyone. At the March meeting, any revisions to the formula will be discussed and if any changes are put into effect, that will happen during the fall semester.

The library has also maintained the lengthened hours it enforced during finals week, which allows those students who work to visit the library during later hours. The new hours are as follows: Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 - midnight, Fri. - 7:30 - 4:30, Sat. 1 - 5, and Sun. 1 - 5. During the weekday hours, except on Friday, there will be limited services after 9 p.m. This means that there will be virtually no assistance to help you locate materials, Gabehart said. Hopefully, the students will appreciate the positive movement of library staff to improve the hours and to allow for better distribution of the money the colleges and the library is allocated throughout the year.

## New parking lot proposed

Viki Panos  
Almagest

Closer parking on campus will soon become a reality. A new parking lot, located between Noel Library and Bronson Hall's parking lot, is currently in the planning stages.

Vice Chancellor of Business Affairs, Michael Ferrell, says that he hopes the lot will be ready for use sometime next year; however, nothing is definite yet. Ferrell contends the main obstacle to building the parking lot is money. "You have to build up the dollars in the fund, and that fund is created by parking decals that have been paid," Ferrell said.

The cost of the parking lot is still unknown. Bids are necessary first, and, according to Ferrell, surprises do happen. The university expected to pay \$50,000-\$60,000 for the new parking spaces in front of the library and the administration building. This cost included sidewalks, handicapped ramps, the street, and the parking spaces; however, the low bid came in at \$31,000.

How low the bid is, and the amount of money accumulated, will determine when construction begins. Ferrell is hoping that the lot will be complete by the Spring of 1997. "There is a lot of red tape involved in this and, we'll probably have to go through Facility Planning. It's a state agency headquartered in Baton Rouge," Ferrell said. In the past, LSUS has had to send this agency the money for improvements in parking, and then have the agency pay the architect and the construction crews.

Ferrell says that although the total number of new parking spaces is unknown, "We're going to get the maximum that we can in the space that's available to us with the dollars that we have."

No matter what happens, faculty parking spaces will not increase. "We will probably move a few faculty spots over there. But whatever few that we move over there, we're going to release some from the Bronson Hall lot," Ferrell said.

The new parking spaces will mean easier access to the Noel Memorial Library as well as closer parking for students. But, according to University Police Chief Ron Parker, parking is now easier for students taking night classes in Bronson Hall. "We find that in the evening now, the faculty does not need all the spaces they have out there. So, we put up new signs, just before this semester began, that allows the students to park on the Bronson lot in the faculty places if they find those signs that say from this point on, after 5 p.m., student parking allowed," Parker said.

If you have trouble finding a close place to park when you come to class, do not try to park in faculty, campus vehicle, or handicapped parking spaces. Chief Parker says tickets are being written. "We don't like to issue tickets to anybody, but there's a necessity to at times," Parker said.

Unless you're a visitor, parking anywhere on campus without a parking decal can also get you ticketed. The University Police are able to trace cars without decals by the license plate number.

Faculty members should take note as well. It is illegal for any faculty member to park in a student parking space. Parker guarantees that cars with faculty decals parked in student spaces will be ticketed.

So, while the campus anticipates closer, more convenient parking, try to follow campus parking regulations. It will mean less hassle for the police, and you.

## Student arrested on campus

Flynn Dulle  
Almagest

Shreveport police officers arrested an LSUS student with outstanding warrants on campus Tuesday morning.

Following the student onto campus after a traffic violation, police officers began issuing citations. In the course of following procedure, officers discovered a handgun in the vehicle and outstanding warrants against the driver.

Warrants included driving with a revoked Louisiana driver's license and possession of an illegal Texas driver's license.

Shreveport Police Public Information Officer Cindy Chadwick said weapons charges were not filed.

"Due to the unclear nature of the law, we simply asked the student not to bring the weapon back on campus," said LSUS police chief Parker

## When does music become 'muzak'?

Kathy Smith  
Guest Columnist

Remember as a child the doctors offices, elevators and grocery stores that played all that groovy music? They were the tunes your parents listened to but with the words taken out. Most of the songs were the ones they danced and played to on the Lawrence Welk show every Sunday. You know the ones like "Downtown (that's where I want to be)" or "I left my heart in San Francisco." Always something catchy that sticks in your mind, even if you don't know the words. If you were lucky they would play a rousing number by Herb Alpert and the Tijuana Brass! Ahhh muzak. Soothing music for the troubled soul.

I wish I had a dollar for every time I've heard the Beatles "Yesterday" being played by some Glen Miller-

type orchestra. Even the Beatles were before my time but I like hearing those old songs every once in a while. It's always reassuring to hear the favorite Marilyn Macoo or Barry Manilow tune come drifting through the speakers between the calls for aisle clean-ups and manager specials. What memories these songs evoke. The nurse with the big black hairdo, calling you to get that inevitable shot from the doctor. Or your dentist telling you they're going to have to yank that tooth out of your head.

Of course they only use golden oldies when they butcher these tunes right? Yeah, that's what I thought too, until yesterday. As I trekked through the food aisles at the local grocery I caught myself singing along with the music as usual. Singing happily I might add. Happily that is until I realized what I was singing. "Alive and Kicking" by the

Simple Minds. Whoa! Wait just a doggone minute. That was only 1985. I was 21-years-old when that song came out. MIV was just getting started. And I'm sure something else important was happening then but who cares it was 1985. Isn't there a law that says no one should have to hear their favorite make-out song become the golden oldie for a new generation? It's like the old hag being put out to pasture. After all, muzak is where all the old used up songs go to die. When record labels can't sell albums they just turn them into muzak.

I can't wait to see which songs the muzak people decide to trash next. Oh, you can expect the obvious choices like Whitney Houston or Chris Isaac but what about the really popular rock-n-roll tunes? I don't know that it would be possible to "muzakize" any

lovely ballad by say, I don't know, Nine Inch Nails? With or without Trent Reznor this is not something I would want to hear while having my teeth drilled. Hearing Candle Box or Madonna being bastardized while waiting for my doctor, is not something I look forward to. I want to hear soothing music.

When I'm picking up my milk and eggs I want to feel good about it. I want to know my youth is still intact, that all in right with the world. OK, maybe it's not so bad hearing some of my songs. After all it wasn't so bad shopping to something I knew the words to. So fine, go ahead, butcher those songs, I dare you. Cause next time I hear one I'm gonna just belt out the words and sing, sing, sing. I'm going to make that store wish they had never even bought that tape. Ahhh muzak!



# Caution: Handle With Care - Pregnant Woman

Chuck Phillips

Imagine this men; you are in a room with 25 extremely pregnant women, all of whom are ticked off at your gender for their condition. In this room is a table of food. Now, do you: A) Partake of the food. B) Ignore the food and allow your blood sugar to drop dangerously low. C) In an effort to please those hormonal horrors, begin pounding your hand with a hammer while singing "I am woman" by Helen Reddy.

Before answering, read on a bit and gain insight into what life is like with a pregnant woman.

As I sit down to write what I hope will be of valuable help to would-be fathers, my wife is eight months and one week along in her journey to motherhood. She is no longer the woman I married.

Please don't get me wrong. I love my wife now more than ever, and we are very happy. I wake every morning and rejoice at the appearance of my bride. I can think of little else than her and the baby all the day long. Yes. I am very happy. Debbie, my wife, is happy too. Her happiness though comes out in the strangest ways.

The other day, I came home from a hard day, grumbling about having to begin work on a research paper. In the same loving tone she has had with me for the past two years, Debbie asked me to explain what all this paper entailed. After I

described the hours of library time, late nights, headaches and missed sleep that would be required of me to do well on this paper,

Debbie asked, "Does this mean I won't get to see you much over the next few weeks?" "Yes", I replied "I am afraid so."

No sooner had I let these words slip from my mouth than I began to see what was coming. Tears. Debbie was going to break down crying because I was not going to be around as much.

It was not until I heard the sounds coming from our bedroom that I realized she was no longer in the room with me. Feeling like a condemned prisoner walking to the electric chair, I made my way down the hall. The sounds coming from that chamber sent chills up my spine. This was going to be worse than I imagined.

Gathering all of my courage, I slowly opened the door. What I saw still gives me the shakes. Debbie was gleefully cackling while packing my suitcase. I can't prove it, but I would swear that the dog had a smile on her face too.

Sensing imminent danger, I quietly walked back to the living room to await my fate. After the longest 10 minutes of my life, Debbie appeared. To my surprise, she did not have my suitcase in hand. She just stood there and glared at me.

"What is it dear?", I stuttered.

"You thought you could fool me," she shot back.

Now I was totally bewildered.

"What in the world are you talking about?", I said in a semi-brave voice.

"You thought by getting one of those highbrowed professors (sorry guys those were her words) of yours to assign a research paper that I would be fooled into being happy to have you out of the house and that because you were out of the house, I could eat oreos all day long and read romance novels and lay around in my house robe and fuzzy slippers with my hair up in rollers when you know I use a curling iron to do my hair and then just watch Jeopardy and say 'Alex, I choose idiotic husbands for \$500' but I am not going to fall for that one, Oprah said that you would do this and I am on to you. you are going to the birthing class with me tonight and that is final."

I was truly amazed that she did not pass out for lack of oxygen while reciting that lecture.

Needless to say I attended the birthing class that night.

If you have never been to a birthing class, I suggest that you go while you are single. There are two reasons for this unusual recommendation. 1. You can leave anytime you want. 2. You can watch men who are otherwise aggressive, take-charge people grovel like puppies at the feet of normally petite angelic type beings.

The class was held in a large conference room at WillisKnighton South. Each cou-

ple was told to bring two pillows to the meeting. (The men later found out that was so the women could sleep while we learned how to breast feed)

Everything was going fine until the instructor announced a break, and invited everyone to enjoy the food set out on one of the tables against the back wall. Immediately the women got to their feet and like a great flock of grounded ducks, they waddled toward the feast.

This is the sad part of the story. There was one man in the class that was not very bright. Apparently he thought that because of the condition of the women that he could beat them to the food and get a bite before it was all gone. Watching his bravado with envy, every other man in the room silently cheered him on. He almost made it, but in his haste, he stumbled and did not get clear of the mammary mass before it engulfed his entire right arm. I can't bear to relate what happened next, but credit should be given to the Willis Knighton trauma unit for saving his arm.

After everything calmed down, the class resumed with the distribution of hammers and song sheets of "I am Woman" to all the men in the class.

Well gentlemen, that's it for this week. I will try to keep a diary or some other record so that those of you who plan on going through this in the future will have my expertise to guide you through this most wonderful experience.

## Attention LSUS Students!

- ❖ Want to be more involved in school?
- ❖ Want to meet new people?
- ❖ Need some great resume material?

Well good news!

SGA elections are being held the week of March 18- 22.

If you would like to run for College Senator pick up an application in room 232 at the University Center.

Deadline to turn in your application is March 4th.

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# The Almagest

To Keep Students Informed  
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## SGA - Politics as usual

LSUS is a constant, seething hotbed of controversial issues and student unrest: the library, the proficiency exam, the budget cuts, the SGA, the slim course offerings, the chicken, the amount of parking spaces and lack thereof, the John Darling formerly known as Chancellor.

Are these issues constantly on the lips and minds of the majority of LSUS students? Are LSUS students completely involved and in-tune with the campus as a whole?

In a word, no. We're actually too busy. LSUS is a commuter campus. The majority of us juggle both school and work. Some of us include a life at home with our spouse and children into the mix. Time is in short supply and anything not directly and immediately involved with getting that degree and keeping life going is extraneous.

I don't mean to imply that students don't care. I feel sure that each person on this campus has some opinion and concern about every issue previously mentioned. But many of us haven't the time to involve ourselves or express our opinions. This is where the SGA and the Almagest come in.

In an ideal world, the student paper reports everything of interest and keeps the student body informed. The student body communicates to the SGA their opinions and concerns. The SGA acts in the best interest of their constituents. Communication and feedback work to keep the system operating smoothly.

This isn't an ideal world. Like I said before, students are busy. In the last SGA election, THREE percent of the student population voted. In a recent voting opportunity to amend the student constitution, 23 students voted. Twenty three students out of an approximate 4000. For non-math majors, that's ONE-HALF OF ONE percent. There are 24 members of the SGA. Who didn't vote? The average age of an LSUS student is 27. The majority are white females. With these statistics, how can the SGA with any seriousness claim that they really represent the student body? When do they confer with their constituents? Certainly not during their classes. If that were the case then I'm sure voter turn-out would be higher. How about during their 1 p.m. Tuesday meetings? Hello! Didn't I just mention that this is a working campus? Don't take my word for it, just look at the parking lots after noon.

The system may be functioning, but it isn't working. I don't wish to overly criticize the SGA. There are many variables aggravating the situation and they are doing what they can. However, I would like to point out a few things.

As elected members of government, the SGA members are public figures and open to criticism, both individually and as a whole. Purchasing a full page advertorial in the last issue of last semester's Almagest, to defend itself against "...a few voices overheard criticizing the activity (or inactivity) of the SGA" is absurd and a waste of our, the students, money. The SGA should be grateful for any input it receives from the student body and also be aware that criticism goes hand-in-hand with the benefits of the job.

I also want to point out to SGA vice president Scott Wolf that editorials are by their definition, one-sided opinion pieces. Kurt Pickett is doing one of the traditional and expected jobs of the press, that of watch dogging the government.

Flynn Dulle  
Editor

### Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to The Almagest office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. The Almagest reserves the right to edit letters.

## Charming! by Flynn Dulle



## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In a recent (February 1, 1996) Almagest editorial there was a fellow student who wrote a very discouraging opinion about the SGA. As SGA Vice-President I took the attack on the SGA as very personal. Before I begin, I want to be very clear in the fact that I am not representing the ideas of the SGA as a whole nor should I be misconstrued to the point that I am giving the opinion of the SGA. In my Opinion, Kurt Pickett has continued to prove to me and to the rest of the student body that after a few years of college he has still not learned the importance of establishing the facts and writing the truth.

During his editorial entitled, "Bathroom-Graffiti Argumentation," Kurt stated many claims that are unfounded and totally false. I would hope that in the future Kurt will be more committed to writing opinion that contain truth rather than writing articles that talk about misconception that border on slander and libel. The reason I am so angry with Kurt's article is that I know for a fact that everything he has said about the SGA was and is false. Kurt said, "Many members of the SGA defended the administration at every opportunity, hands extended for letters of medical and graduate school recommendation." he seemed to insinuate that the SGA does everything for the administration so as we can better ourselves at others' expense. However, nothing could be further from the truth. I know for a fact, and I can provide whatever documentation is necessary to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt, that the SGA has done everything they can for every student at LSUS. In fact, I can cite numerous examples where the SGA has gone against the administration's wishes to help you, the student body. For example, on June 6, 1995, the Student Senate passed a resolution, sponsored by Senator Kevin Harbin, to LSU system President Allen Copping recommending that two students, instead of one, be placed on the Chancellor Search Committee. Although President Copping rejected our proposal, we did play a role in reducing the size of the Search Committee so that the ratio of student voice was increased.

There are also other examples of the SGA protecting your right's as a student. On September 19, 1995, the SGA spoke with Dr. Laurene Zaporozhetz, Dean of Noel Memorial Library. Before there was ever any library petition, sit in, or protest, the SGA was actively establishing student concerns about the library. In fact on October 31, 1995, Senator Dana Foster made a motion to support the library petition, going against some of the wishes of the administration. After a vote was taken, the Senate passed the resolution to support the library petition. Very recently the Senate has passed various resolution to oppose administrative decision. These resolutions include a bill sponsored by Senator Ted McCastlain that made a recommendation that the word "staff" be removed from class scheduling. The response we got from the administration was not exactly what we wanted but we have started rolling the ball on "staff" being used at a reduced level. Some of you might even ask, "What has the SGA done about student concerns such as parking and the proficiency exam?" Well obviously Kurt forgot to tell you the SGA was able to get the students more parking in the Bronson Hall parking lot and that the proficiency exam, although not yet history, had been reduced in price, starting in the fall, to \$9.25. Also, very recently, the Senate passed legislation, sponsored by Senator Kevin Harbin, to save your summer commencement. Some members of the faculty and administration wants to end summer commencement but the SGA has fought to stop their actions. Not to forget, the SGA, with Senator Michael Scales leading the charge, has been actively involved in pursuing money for student's interest by way of the river boat casinos. The SGA was and is able to do these things for the student body because we care about the student's thoughts and opinions. During the 1995-1996 school year the SGA has been active on an unprecedented scale looking to alleviate any problems or concerns for the student body.

Continued on P.6



# Students defend a free internet, criticize legislation

Kurt Milton Pickett  
Almagest

Last Thursday, President Clinton signed the much criticized Telecommunications Reform bill, the Conference Committee version having passed the Senate only days before. The bill, in its original form, is both necessary and prudent. It replaces the anachronistic language of the Communications Act of 1934 with contemporary language that meets the needs of the information age. For example, the Reform bill strikes the word "telephone" from the 1934 Act, replacing it with "telecommunications device"—an alteration that will, wisely, extend a broad level of federal governance to the information super-highway. This and similar aspects of the bill are intelligent, not to mention constitutional. The government must play a role in private industry, else the few would ravage the masses, destroying the Tocquevillian ideal of American equality that is so often a source of both national pride and legislative action in America.

Unfortunately, since its inception, the concept of telecommunications reform and the dialogue surrounding it have been dominated by two serious threats to this theory of American equality: the deregulation of private "communications" markets, and the annihilation of free speech as we know it. Since signing the bill, Clinton has come under increasing fire from the legislation's opponents who (like myself) believe the legislation to be both unconstitutional and dangerous.

One of the more dangerous aspects of the

bill allows all "communication" industries to enter each other's market; some such industries include television, print, on-line, news (no matter what medium), and computer software corporations. And while this legislation is not clearly unconstitutional, it quite clearly gives far too much liberty to private corporations. Proponents of this deregulation (none other than the Adam-Smith-tie-wearing Newt Gingrich and his party-line Republican freshmen) claim that it will invigorate the free market, thus allowing it to reach its maximum potential, and that it will. The market's potential to destroy small business and innovation will be maximized. "Big business or no business" will be the legacy of this new, unchecked marketplace. Huge corporations will take a "gather ye rosebuds while ye may" attitude and buy up as many smaller corporations as possible so as to alleviate competition, resulting in wide spread monopolies that will never be defeated no matter how dated or inferior their products are. Even more threatening, huge mega-corporations like multi-billionaire Bill Gates' Microsoft will be allowed to buy news corporations, like Ted Turner's Turner Broadcasting Network; that means Gates will own CNN, and the American people will never again be notified of Gates' characteristic theft of software technology and anti-trust activity that typically dominates the headlines—at least not on CNN. (And this is not speculation; just four months ago, CNN reported that Gates had been attempting to persuade the courts to allow his hostile takeover of Turner Broadcasting). After time, IBM may own the New York Times, and the 700 Club may own NBC. It will be the end

of free speech and information, not their advancement.

In a more blatant attempt to destroy free speech, Senator James J. Exon (D-Nebraska), seeking to limit sexual and pornographic information on the Internet, authored the "Communications Decency Act of 1996", an amendment to the Telecommunications Reform bill. This bolshevism, under the guise of protecting children, aims directly at strangling free speech and expression. Children, maturing in this age of AIDS, more than anyone else need an easily accessed source of sexual information. Historically, parents have never discussed sexuality with their children and probably never will. If a child is born into a home where her parents are ashamed of sex, that child needs and deserves safe exposure to sexual information and material before she chooses to have sex. But Exon won't have children learning about sex, and he won't have pornography on the Internet.

I happen to love pornography and so do the vast majority of Americans. And why shouldn't we? Sex is pleasurable; watching others have sex is natural (virtually all mammals have such voyeuristic experiences throughout their lives); the act of viewing pornography is consensual; and (most importantly) no one is harmed by my choice to view pornography. If I want to download a Graphic Image File (GIF) of someone who is nude, or who is engaged in a behavior that is deemed pornographic by Exon, no one is hurt. But under the Exon amendment, sending or receiving such GIFs would be illegal. Clearly, if someone out there in cyberspace is sending porno-GIFs to random e-mail

addresses and the recipients are offended by the images, then that person should be prosecuted. But the Exon amendment perverts this concept, prohibiting consenting individuals from privately viewing pornography—a legal activity.

Fortunately, on Thursday the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit against Janet Reno, in her official capacity as Attorney General, demanding injunctive relief on behalf of 19 entities, including the National Writers Guild, Planned Parenthood, the Critical Path AIDS Project, and the Queer Resources Directory. Even Newt Gingrich, in an interview with David Frost of PBS, guessed that the Exon amendment is "probably illegal under our Constitution." Exon is merely greasing his way back to the Senate, perfectly aware that his actions are unconstitutional and that they will be undone, after which he can blame the ACLU for supporting pedophilia.

Unfortunately, it is too late to act. The President has signed the bill. But I am not terribly concerned. I believe it can be reasonably shown that both of these aspects to the Telecommunications Reform bill damage free speech. Luckily, our country is designed for just such absurd legislation. In case our Legislators are wasting our time and money with bills designed to insure their re-election, and in case our President is wasting our time and money trying to get re-elected, there's always the Supreme Court—none of its members are vying for re-election.

David Eleuterius  
Almagest

After watching the talking heads debate the merits and downfalls of censorship, I think that I'll cast my lot into the mix—an issue this potentially explosive deserves to be examined. Censorship seems to be a popular topic in the media, especially with politicians, who naturally seek hot topics to sink their teeth into pit-bull style. I will agree that there is a lot of wasted space (called 'bandwidth' by those sporting pocket protectors) that could be put to far better use. I will not deny that there is a lot of, for lack of a better term, 'smut.' For anyone with an aptitude for computers, this is easily accessible. A recent incident involving children finding instructions for making explosives to destroy their school is a perfect demonstration of just how easy this is.

So the obvious conclusion must be to remove all destructive, prurient, and offensive material—the litter strewn along the sides of the beautiful information superhighway. Right?

As a journalist, the hackles on my neck rise at the mention of the word 'censorship.' To me, that should be akin with pulling the self-destruct switch when the ship has been taken by the enemy. So before we bring out the torches and prepare to burn

Frankenstein, take a moment to consider a few things.

First, people must take personal responsibility. Let me repeat that: Personal responsibility. I know that's a pretty mind-blowing concept, but come on people. By this, I mean that parents should be aware of what their children are pulling up on their web browsers. By this, I mean that parents should know more about their computers other than how to turn them on and off. They should spend some time with them while they are online, and learn what they are doing. There are programs out there that function much like 'parental control' on cable boxes. If there is an offending area of the Internet, the parent can block it from their children's access so that it is NOT AVAILABLE to them. Some web browsers are specifically for children and have a list of offensive sites already blocked within the program. Most web browsers have a feature called 'global history' that will show a long list of the most recent sites visited. If there was a questionable site among them, then BLOCK it. I admit that this is not fool-proof, but it is certainly better than huffing and puffing about that fact that it is available.

Second, people say they are offended by some material found on the Internet. That's OK, because some of it I find personally distasteful. Does that mean that we should push

that giant DELETE button? Let's gain some perspective on this. I am offended by a lot of the commercials I see on television (especially those with Ava Harvey and Dan Walters). I am offended by the junk mail that is in my mailbox everyday. How do I handle these assaults upon my sensibilities? I change the channel. I throw the junk mail away. If an annoying song comes on the radio, I change the station. My question is: Do parents normally let their children watch programs they consider offensive? The same should hold true for the Internet. This goes back to my first point of personal responsibility. Nobody said that you had to stand there and take it.

Last to consider is the human factor. This means that a brand new brick wall will have graffiti on it tomorrow. That horns, blackened teeth and mustaches will appear on posters of political candidates. That people will walk around nude in trenchcoats, that people will make obscene phone calls, that people will be weird. This new medium allows them to broadcast their peculiarities to the entire world, and people being people, will bring the whole thing down to the lowest common denominator. Once again, this falls back upon the individual. Do we read graffiti, or listen to obscene phone calls. No, we exercise personal responsibility.

Censorship seems easy to argue, but in

practice would be almost impossible. The Internet is a worldwide system that was designed to survive nuclear attacks. Once a message or site is on the Internet, it is worldwide, instantly. Sure, you could remove offensive material from the United States but the material would still be available from computers in other countries. This simple fact is lost on people who do not understand how the system even works. How can you argue with people who don't understand the circumstances to begin with?

I want people to realize that there is a lot of good out there. As is often the case, isolated incidents draw national media attention, overshadowing the any positive aspects of the Net. I beseech people not to pass judgement now, but to realize the POTENTIAL for this medium. Right now we are all standing in the elevator, at basement level. We have nowhere to go but UP. At this point in time, to allow politicians to come in and impose restrictions (which can't even be enforced because of the Net's nature, but that's another story) would be like treating a headache by cutting off the head. It would be like burning an apple orchard that has only one infected tree in its midst. The Internet is but a toddler, barely out of infancy. To shackle the child so that it never learns to walk would be the true crime.



Letter cont. from P.4

Kurt Pickett called the SGA "administration-controlled" but he failed to cite any specific examples where the SGA was controlled and he also failed to provide any documentation to prove that SGA has ever been controlled by the administration. Most disheartening is the fact that Kurt failed to mention the examples that I have illustrated. I must assume however, that if you write a one-sided editorial you would not want to write things that would refute your opinion. What I also find very unusual is that Kurt Pickett blasts the SGA yet never once in any of the nearly thirty Senate meetings the SGA has had while I have been Vice-President, has he attended a meeting to express his views. I also have difficulty in understanding that someone claims to have knowledge of the SGA but has not attended any meetings. On November 3, 1995, the SGA sponsored a party to meet your new and old SGA members. Kurt Pickett did not show up for the party. On November 21, 1995, there was an SGA sponsored Student Forum where administrators, faculty and students meet to discuss campus issues. Kurt Pickett did not show up for the Forum either. I am also very offended by the fact the Kurt has not the misconception that letters of recommendation are just "given" out to many SGA members. Publicly, I ask Kurt to present to me and to the student body the names of every SGA who has been "given" a letter of recommendation from the administration and to present documentation to prove his claims.

Finally, I want to say how very wrong Kurt Pickett is in questioning the loyalty of the student body. Everything that I have stated beforehand is completely accurate. I am prepared to provide anyone with clear documentation to prove what I have said. I stand by the claim that the SGA is one hundred percent committed in doing everything we can for, and in the best interests of the student body. There are indeed some cases where members of the SGA might choose to take a side that is not the majority, but I can respect their decision if they have been asked to do so by their constituents. The SGA has been and will continue to be the student's best opinion in getting their concerns and problems alleviated.

In less than two months there will be an election of College Senators and for SGA President and Vice-President. You the students have the choice and have had the choice in making your own decision of who to elect. For the first time in many years you have an active Senate. I challenge each and every student to understand the immortal words of John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Put those words in the context of school commitment by saying, "Ask not what your school can do for you, but what you can do for your school." Voting is your right given to you by being a student. Use your voting privilege wisely by voting in the upcoming election, because if you so not vote the you have no real right to complain about your representatives. Thank you for your time and God bless you all.

Scott R. Wolf  
SGA Vice-President

## Louisiana: First in the Nation

Gramm, Buchanan or Keyes. Which did you support on Tuesday? Chances are — none. On Tuesday, February 6th, Louisiana held the first caucus in the nation. Judging from the turnout, most of us never knew. Certainly the national media did not help. Even though Louisiana Republican Party Chairman Mike Francis mowed through tons of bureaucracy and years of tradition to put Louisiana ahead of Iowa, the national media still referred to Iowa as the first real caucus. Apparently to them Louisiana was just a diversion.

Iowa was understandably upset at being unseated by us. But while their anger and actions can be justified, what cannot be justified was the reaction of some of the presidential candidates. In order to try to keep their prestige, Iowa asked that all contenders sign a pledge promising not to participate in Louisiana's caucus. Amazingly enough, most candidates agreed. Only Phil Gramm, Pat Buchanan, and Alan Keyes refused the request. Bob Dole, Steve Forbes, Lamar Alexander and the others all allowed Iowa to dictate where they would go and what they would do. Iowa cannot really be blamed, however. They were just trying to save their own necks. It was a gamble that

paid off. But, the candidates can be blamed. Dole was quoted as saying that Iowa voters were just too important. So Louisiana voters are not important? Unfortunately for Senator Dole, everyone's vote counts exactly the same, and anger at being ignored is much more likely to be remembered by voters than the gratitude for his campaigning. Phil Gramm, Pat Buchanan and Alan Keyes all rise above the rest of the group because they alone treated us as if we were important. One has to ask if we really want a president who is as easily led and bullied as those remaining in Iowa have shown themselves to be. Louisiana may not be a big state, or even the best state, but as long as we are here, we still matter, our votes still count, and our voices will still be heard—even if we have to shout louder than anyone else to be heard.

So- Thank you Gramm, Buchanan and Keyes. Louisiana will remember you.

Michelle A. Davison  
Senior  
Public Relations

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# Sports

## LSUS Pilots post exciting win against Ambassador Royals



Larry Hall, 23 jumps for rebound

Brian Allen and Shelly Cole  
Almagest

The LSUS Pilots continued their push for a playoff berth last Tuesday with a 75-71 over the Ambassador University Royals, who found themselves unprepared for a 33 point performance from freshman forward Larry Hall.

The Pilots were in control early, but a 15-5 Royal run in the final minutes put Ambassador up 43-38 to end the first half.

The game took on a dizzying pace as the teams traded leads nine times in the second half. The last 10 minutes included two ties, and no lead larger than four points.

The final two minutes saw tempers flare and LSUS hitting key free throws. With 2:18 left in the half, LSUS trailed 68-67. Ambassador center Ricky Lynch

was called for a defensive foul and voiced his appreciation to the referee, thus earning himself a technical foul. Larry Hall, the Pilots' most valuable player this season, hit both his free throws to give LSUS a one point lead. Chris Young shot for the technical foul and nailed his free throws, so Lynch's temper-flare turned a one point Ambassador lead into a three point LSUS lead.

With 29 seconds left Hall was fouled again, and again hit both free throws to give the Pilots a 73-68 lead. But Ambassador's Jeff Servidio shot a three-pointer and silenced the LSUS faithful. But the Royals fell apart in the game's final seconds, fouling Phillip August who hit two free throws for the game's final points. Ambassador's last gasp of hope went away when Eric Murdock was called for double dribbling, giving the ball back to LSUS. When the dust settled, LSUS had emerged 75-71 in a game no one left early.

The win upped LSUS' record to 8-12, and kept the possibility of postseason play on the horizon. Coach Louis Cook felt his team adjusted well after a week layoff brought on by the ice storm.

"I feel very confident about the homecoming game," he went on to say. LSUS plays Southwest Adventist College at

7:30 Thursday night in the H.P.E. Building. LSUS is 6-2 at home, an important fact because if the Pilots finish first in the region in NAIA Division II, they would host a playoff game.

Athletic Director Larry Rambin is excited about what would be a first in the history of LSUS' athletic program. Rambin explained that Nebraska's Peru State College, the team chasing LSUS, lost over the weekend giving LSUS second place in the standings despite what is now an 8-13 record. Rambin said the record is misleading because five teams on LSUS' schedule are not in the NAIA and don't count against LSUS' regional record. The playoff system currently in place is called the Krause count, and it attempts to level the playing field between teams of various skills. For example, LSUS earned two points in the rating system for a Saturday night loss at Williams Baptist College. LSUS lost by ten but earned points for playing a close game against a team with a winning record on the road.

Now the athletic department awaits the latest standings from the NAIA. The Pilots have three games remaining, and Rambin said the team feels confident about all three.

## Free-throws hurt Lady Pilots

Shelly Cole  
Almagest

Ambassador University forward Lisa Pittman, making eight of 15 field goal attempts and shooting 100 percent from the free-throw line, led the Lady Royals (7-12 for the season) to a 79-65 victory over the Lady Pilots Tuesday, February 6.

LSUS' Lisa Bosby and Erin Digilormo each had 12 points at the end of the first half leading the Lady Pilots past Ambassador 36-34. The game remained close, 10 ties and seven lead changes, until the last four minutes when the Lady Royals' 14-6 run left the win out of reach for the Lady Pilots.

LSUS coach Autum Scott said the week layoff, due to the ice storm, affected their playing. "Our sharpness wasn't there and [the players] were a little slow moving into position," said Scott. "Our free-throw shooting really hurt us."

The Lady Pilots shot 55 percent from the line while the Lady Royals shot 71 percent. Ambassador's field goal percentage, 42 percent, also hurt LSUS who shot 34 percent.

Still, the Lady Pilots (1-20 for the season) played hard and showed they could be competitive.

Four LSUS players shot double digits, and the team grabbed 46 rebounds, only three less than Ambassador.

Lady Pilot Lisa Bosby, 6'0, faced Lady Royal Lisa Pittman, 6'1. Bosby outrebounded Pittman 16-9,

but Pittman chalked up the points, 21 for the game versus 16 for Bosby.

Scott said they tried "to force the outside shot" with a "one-three-one zone defense" but switched to man-to-man at the end of the game to try to shut down Royal's guard Shari Sawyer. Sawyer popped three 3-pointers in the last ten minutes of the game.

Scott said "The game was won on the free-throw line."

The Lady Pilots are gearing-up to play Williams Baptist Thursday, February 15 at 5:30 p.m. for the Homecoming game.



photo by Shelly Cole  
Lady Pilot Lisa Bosby, 20, faces Lady Royals' Lisa Pittman, 40

## Lady Pilot makes 4.0 GPA

Shelly Cole  
Almagest

Sophomore Lady Pilot Dena Johnson made the Chancellor's list last semester with a 4.0 in the college of education.

Johnson, who is playing her first season for LSUS, practices two to three hours a day, five days a week, unless she has a game. Johnson said she hasn't had much playing time this season because she just started playing again. She hasn't played basketball in four years, since she was in high school, but hopes to be an integral part of the team.

Johnson plans to teach high school and coach girls basketball upon graduation.



photo by Shelly Cole  
Lady Pilot Dena Johnson

## Homecoming Games Tonight!

Lady Pilots vs. Williams Baptist

5:30 p.m.

Pilots vs. Southwest Adventist

7:30 p.m.



# Campus Organizations

## BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

Activities: Bible studies, discipleship groups, mission action  
Meets: 11:00 and 12:00 p.m. Wed. and Thurs. at 7 p.m.  
Contact Skip Noble, 797-1946

## COLLEAGUES

Activities: Volunteer services for Volunteers of America, parties  
Meets: Tues 10:30 a.m.  
Contact Skip Noble, Jim Hicks, 797-5102

## COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

Activities: Guest speakers, work in political campaigns  
Meets: every Tues. at beginning of month  
Contact: Dr. Jefferey Sadow, 797-5159

## GOLDEN Z CLUB

Activities: Projects focusing on illiteracy, the environment, scholarships avail.  
Meets: 2nd and 4th Tues. each month.  
Contact: Anita Harkness, 797-1946

## MAINSTREAM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Meets: Tues. and Thurs. 10:30 a.m.  
Activities: Outdoor concerts, weekend fellowships and trips, volunteer work.  
Contact: Lori Bennet, 797-1946

## RANGERS

Meets: TBA  
Activities: Realistic combat training (repelling, weapons), social activities.  
Contact: SFC Perry Buchanan, 797-5122

## S'PORT/BOSSIER CAMPUS MINISTRY

Meets: Thurs. 10:30 a.m. in UC  
Activities: Weekly devotionals, socials, service proj., retreats.  
Call: Dr. Mary Ann Shaw, 797-5193

## SPJ-LSUS SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALIST

Activities: Guest speakers on topics related to the field of Journalism. social functions.  
Contact: Michelle Millhollen, 687-9493

## TAE KWON DO

Meets: TBA  
Activities: Campus events, tournaments, self-defense clinics, rape prevention  
Contact: Regina Washington, 631-9976

## WEIGHTLIFTING

Meets: TBA  
Activities: Workouts, clinics, competition in local, state, nat'l meets.  
Contact: Kyle Pierce, 797-5271

## ACJS/ Lambda Alpha Epsilon

Meets: 1st and 3rd Thurs. ea month  
Activities: Various community activities, speakers on Law Enforcement ops.  
Contact: Richard Georgia, 797-5078

## LAMDA SIGMA EPSILON, BIOLOGY/HEALTH SCIENCE CLUB

Meets: Tues. or Thurs. Common Hour  
Activities: Community service, fund raising, hiking, bird watching, tours  
Contact: Dr. James Ingold, 797-5244

## DRAMA CLUB

Meets: Tues., Thurs. 10:30 a.m. BH 330  
Activities: Dramatic productions, 1st-hand info on auditions in local prod., volunteer work.  
Contact: Jorji Jarzabek, 797-5228

## ENGLISH CLUB

Meets: 2nd Tues. ea. month  
Activities: Annual book fair, poetry readings, faculty presentations, socials.  
Contact: Tom Dubose, 797-5158

## INTERNATIONAL CLUB

Meets: First Tues. each month  
Activities: Guest Speakers, films, Cultural and charity events.  
Contact: Lynn Walford 797-5245

## GOVERNMENT & LAW SOCIETY

Meets: once a month  
Activities: Speakers & debates, etc.  
Contact: Prof. William D. Pederson, 797-5351

## HEALTH & PHYS. ED. CLUB

Meets: Tues. or Thurs. 10:30  
Activities: "Almost Anything Goes" for LSUS, judge field days for elementary's  
Contact: Maxie Foster, 797-7294

## LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATORS

Meets: Once a month  
Activities: Student Teacher reception, math Magic presented at Stoner Hill Elementary.  
Contact: Cindy Olson, 797-5032

## MBA ASSOCIATION

Meets: once a month  
Activities: Seminars with guest speakers on career planning and resume writing, social activities.  
Contact: Director of Graduate Studies, College of Business, 797-5017

## CHEMISTRY CLUB

Meets: 10:30 a.m. 1st Thurs. ea. month  
Activities: Group activities  
Contact: Dr. Wayne Gustavson, 797-5091

## PI SIGMA EPSILON, MKT & MNGMT

Meets: 2nd & 4th Tues. monthly 10:30  
Activities: Conduct sales & mkt. proj. for local bus., social functions.  
Contact: Ms. Gayle Norton, 797-5268

## PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

Meets: 1st & 3rd Thurs. monthly 10:30  
Activities: Meetings with topics, ie. family violence & therapy. field trips  
Contact: Kelly Haydel, 797-5365 or 797-5057

## PUBLIC RELATIONS STUDENTS SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Meets: twice monthly  
Activities: Guest speakers, learn basics of public relations, networking, national and dis. PRSSA meetings, luncheons.  
Contact: Kathy Smith, 797-5340

## SOCIAL WORK / SOCIOLOGY CLUB

Meets: every other Thurs.  
Activities: Guest speakers on psych related topics, community svc. projects;  
Contact Ms. Kenna Franklin, Dr. Dolch, 797-5351

## SOCIETY or HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Meets: 1st & 3rd Tues. ea. month  
Activities: Seminars, guest speaker luncheons at the University Club, Mentorship prog.  
Contact: Gwen Smith 797-5024 & Dr. Vassar, 797-5020

## STUDENT COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

Meets: 1st & 3rd Fri. monthly  
Activities: Service proj. involving handicapped children.  
Contact: Dr. Alan Thompson & Joe Patrick, 797-5390

## ROTORAC

Meets: Two meetings per month  
Activities: Student service org. One service project per semester, luncheons  
Contact: Dr. Paul Merckle, 797-5240

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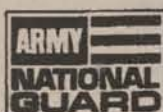
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## Campus Calendar

Thursday, Feb. 15

Homecoming Games: Lady Pilots 5:30 p.m. Pilots 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16

Baseball- Pilots vs. McMurry U. noon

Woody Allen Sex Comedy, 7 p.m. UC Theater

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Baseball- Pilots vs. Dallas Baptist 1 p.m.